

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1670
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006
FM CHANNELS IN ANDHRA PRADESH
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) The number of FM radio channels set up and proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh and other States ;
- (b) The areas identified in Andhra Pradesh for FM radio channels ;
- (c) The revenue the Government is likely to earn through the existing and proposed stations separately ;
- (d) Whether enough FM transmitters have been set up to cater to the needs of new FM radio channels ;
- (e) If so, the details thereof; and
- (f) If not, the time by which more FM transmitters are likely to be set up?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. DASMUNI)

(a): Under All India Radio (AIR) 12 FM transmitters have been set up and 7 are proposed to be set up in Andhra Pradesh. Apart from these 4 private FM stations are operating and 15 channels are proposed in Andhra Pradesh. In the whole of the country 161 AIR FM transmitters are working and 104 new transmitters have been planned. . 41 Private FM channels are currently in operation in the country while 225 more private channels are proposed to be set up.

(b): Kakinada, Karimnager, Srikakulam, Nellore, Mahboobnager, Suryapet and Macherla have been identified for AIR FM Radio Stations and Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam, Rajamundry, Tirupati and Warangal have been identified for private FM Radio Stations in Andhra Pradesh.

(c): The revenue earning from existing AIR FM transmitters during 2005-06 was Rs. 33.25 crores. At this stage it is not possible to indicate revenue likely to be generated from proposed AIR transmitters because the rates for these transmitters are yet to be decided. The revenue earning from existing private FM transmitters during 2005-06 was Rs. 10.67 crores. Annual income expected from 41 currently operationalised channels has been calculated as Rs. 15.24 crores. Besides, a total of Rs. 1145.48 crores was also received under the Phase II of private FM radio scheme on account of One Time Entry Fee and migration fee. The annual revenue expected on operationalisation of all the 266 private FM channels would be Rs. 38.16 crores.

(d) to (f) :133 AIR transmitters were proposed during 10th Plan to increase the coverage by FM signal from 31.3% by population to 49.75% after completion of 10th Plan scheme. Of these 19 transmitters have come up so far covering 35 % of the population. Further expansion is envisaged in the 11th Five year Plan. The implementation of all the AIR schemes will depend on approval and availability of funds.